

# MICHIGAN SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

## PROPOSED PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AND OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES

August 1, 2003

The Michigan School for the Deaf (MSD) offers a total communication Deaf Education program designed for students with ~~profound and severe~~ hearing impairments ~~between the ages 3 and 26 years. Placement at the MSD may be considered for other students with hearing impairments.\*~~ Students who attend the MSD receive ~~an unique~~ a combination of services ~~resulting from complex educational planning involving the interaction of many social, emotional and behavioral intervention strategies, in addition to~~ WHICH INCLUDES academic classroom programs, BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION SERVICES, NONACADEMIC AND EXTRACURRICULAR SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES, AND TRANSITION SERVICES. As a part of the continuum of services and programs, the MSD offers educational programs and related services, at the Flint campus, ~~on a fee for service basis.~~

~~For each student there must exist a continuum of placement options from which the Individualized Education Program Team (IEPT) makes the most appropriate placement.~~ Placement at the MSD is determined on a student-by-student basis through the Individualized Education Program Team (IEPT) process, ~~involving MSD personnel, local and intermediate school district personnel and the student's parents.~~ FOLLOWING ALL STATE AND FEDERAL REGULATIONS.

The MSD offers the following basic programs and services to enrolled students:

- \* MSD based classroom instruction
- \* Psychological evaluation
- \* Audiological evaluation
- \* Medical evaluations by an otologist/otolaryngologist
- \* Speech and language evaluation and services
- \* School social work evaluations and services
- \* MSD school counselor services
- \* Mainstreaming through an individualized education planning (IEP) process in conjunction with Flint Public Schools
- \* Sign language classes

Additional services, as determined by the IEPT, offered on a fee basis include:

- \* Occupational therapy
- \* Physical therapy
- \* Assignment at the area skill center through an IEP process with Flint Community Schools
- \* Mental health counseling services
- \* An alternative educational program is offered for those students needing additional and intensive structure and support in their educational program.

### Admission Procedures PLACEMENT AT MSD

Any interested individual may contact the MSD for information regarding the state school. The school is open to informal and prearranged tours by individuals and groups in order to gain a better understanding of the programs and services provided.

Rule 340.1742(2)(b) of Michigan's Administrative Rules for Special Education requires that: "Before application, the person shall have been identified by the referring school district as hearing impaired under R340.1707." The typical student attending the MSD has a minimum loss of 56 dB HL (hearing loss) P.T.A. (Pure Tone Average) in the better ear and/or a speech discrimination on a standardized word list of less than 50% or a statement from a physician skilled in diseases of the ear, indicating progressive hearing loss. Placement at the MSD may be considered for other students with hearing impairments.

When placement at the MSD is being considered, the resident school district will forward to MSD appropriate records which may include, but are not limited to:

- \* Current Multidisciplinary Evaluation Team (MET) reports
- \* Latest Individualized Education Program (IEP)
- \* Medical evaluations
- \* Audiological evaluation
- \* Other special education support services report

These records must be exchanged prior to the IEPT meeting being scheduled to consider placement at the MSD.

IT IS PREFERRED THAT THE RESIDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT CONTACT THE MSD TO SEEK TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND CONSULTATION PRIOR TO CONSIDERING PLACEMENT AT THE MSD. COLLABORATIVE CONSIDERATION AS TO THE NEED FOR PLACEMENT AT MSD IS PREFERRED.

PER RULE 340.1721E(5), THE RESIDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT SHALL CONDUCT THE INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM TEAM MEETING THAT INITIATES AN ASSIGNMENT INTO THE MSD. REPRESENTATIVES OF THE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF RESIDENCE AND THE MSD SHALL BE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM TEAM MEETING.

THE MSD SHALL ACT AS AN OPERATING SCHOOL DISTRICT UNDER RULE 340.1721C. THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF RESIDENCE SHALL CONDUCT OR AUTHORIZE THE MSD TO CONDUCT, EACH SUBSEQUENT INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM TEAM MEETING AT A MUTUALLY AGREED UPON TIME AND PLACE.

IN COLLABORATION WITH THE RESIDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, THE MSD STAFF WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN APPROPRIATE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM FOR EACH STUDENT. AT THE INITIAL PLACEMENT IEP, IF THE MSD STAFF HAS HAD INSUFFICIENT TIME FOR CONSULTATION AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WITH THE STUDENT, THE MSD STAFF WILL RECOMMEND THAT THE STUDENT BE PLACED AT THE MSD FOR AN EVALUATION PERIOD UP TO 30 SCHOOL DAYS, IN WHICH TIME THE MSD WILL COMPLETE AN EVALUATION AND THE IEP TEAM WILL RECONVENE TO DETERMINE APPROPRIATE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES.

~~When consideration for placement at the MSD is indicated, an IEPT will be conducted by the resident school district per Rule 340.1742. Representatives of the MSD and the intermediate school district of residence shall be invited to the IEPT. Placement at the MSD is an IEPT decision; there can be no unilateral acceptance/rejection of the placement by either the parent, resident school district or the MSD. The parent, the resident school district or the MSD may initiate an impartial due process hearing regarding the appropriateness of placement at the MSD.~~

~~Placement decisions are based on the program developed by the IEPT. Once the completed IEPT determines placement at the MSD, a contract with the resident school district will be developed and the contract will specify exactly what programs and services the MSD will provide during the placement. All such programs and services shall be listed in the student's IEP. However, the MSD may be responsible to provide some or all of the programs and services listed in a student's IEP, based upon the contract with the resident district.~~

~~The resident district is responsible for conducting all IEPT meetings. The MSD will contact the resident school district 12 weeks prior to the IEP expiration date as a reminder of the need for a new IEPT meeting. In the event that the contractual agreement between the MSD and the resident school district expires, programs and services at the MSD may be discontinued.\*~~

~~All initial evaluations and subsequent evaluations for special education eligibility, will be conducted by the resident school district, unless other contractual arrangements are made with the MSD.~~

### ~~Procedural Safeguards~~

~~The MSD assures that policies and procedures are on file at the office and available for review and comply with the requirements of Part 9 of the Revised Administrative Rules for Special Education (Rules) entitled "Records and Confidentiality," as well as Sections 300.500-300.529 and 300.560-300.577 of the IDEA regulations.~~

~~Policies and procedures on file at MSD include:~~

~~Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; MDE Bulletin Number 522 entitled "Revised Schedule for the Retention and Disposal of Public School Records, March 1997".~~

~~MSD also assures that contractual agreements between MSD, the resident school district and the intermediate school district shall be kept on file and available for review at MSD administrative offices.~~

### ~~Central Registry~~

~~Current student data shall be maintained by the MSD for all students with disabilities in attendance at the MSD through twenty five (25) years of age. The central registry shall be operational and have the ability to provide up to date pupil counts and other data requirements to the Department of Education. Each resident school district shall provide the MSD with a complete updated data record for each student who is receiving a special education program or related service at the MSD.~~

### ~~Change in Resident School Districts~~

~~When a family of a student at the MSD moves residence to a new school district, a new IEPT meeting must be held and a new contract developed. The family must register the student in the new school district and inform them that the student is currently placed at the MSD. The MSD will assist by making telephone contact with the special education director in the new school district. Placement at the MSD will continue for 30 school days. During the 30 school days, a new IEP must be developed with the new resident school district. At the end of the 30 days, if there is no new contract between the MSD and the new resident school district on file at MSD, the programs and services offered to the student by the MSD may be terminated. Parents will be informed of this termination prior to the final school day.\*~~

## Transportation

The MSD provides transportation for enrolled students to and from any off-campus site that is necessary to provide special education programs and services as described in the student's contractual agreement with the resident school district. These transportation costs are billed to the local resident school district. The resident school district is responsible to provide transportation for its MSD students between the MSD and the resident school district.

## OUTREACH SERVICES

The MSD will provide diagnostic services to non-enrolled students by contractual agreement with the resident school district. The following diagnostic services may be provided at the MSD:

- \* Audiology evaluations
- \* School social work evaluations
- \* Speech and language evaluations
- \* Otological evaluations
- \* Psychological evaluations
- \* Occupational therapy evaluations
- \* Physical therapy evaluations
- ~~\* Outreach services~~

Evaluations provided by contractors for enrolled students are billed to the resident school district. Contracted audiology evaluations and services provided to non-enrolled students, upon request, are billed to the resident school district. Attendance at an IEP Team meeting for a student who is attending the MSD, or being considered for admission to the MSD, is not a service that is billed to the resident school district. Signed Communication Proficiency Interviews (SCPI) are provided through a federal grant to special education personnel at no cost to the resident school district.

## Residential Living Option

~~Dormitory housing is available for students who live too far from campus to commute on a daily basis. Individual student needs for dormitory housing will be given consideration outside of the IEPT process.~~

\*Nothing within these operational procedures reduces the rights and protections of students and their parents under state and federal laws including the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and its implementing regulations, or Michigan Act 451 of the Public Acts of 1976, as amended, and its implementing regulations.